

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claim 1 and ADD new claim 8 in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An individual information managing device connected ~~to~~ with a communication line network, for managing individual information, the device comprising:

an individual information storing section in which information and information disclosure items on each individual has been registered;

a disclosure procedure storing section in which an information disclosure procedure assigned ~~for to~~ each individual by each individual has been registered, the information disclosure procedure being customized by each user; and

a disclosure procedure executing section that receives a request for disclosing information on a specific individual through the communication line network, executes an information disclosure procedure that matches the customized information disclosure procedure of the specific individual stored in the disclosure procedure storing section, and transmits the information on the specific individual and the information disclosure items registered for the specific individual to the communication line network toward the information requesting origin when the customized information disclosure procedure has been satisfied.

2. (ORIGINAL) An individual information managing device according to claim 1, wherein

the individual information storing section is registered with each individual information that consists of a plurality of ranked pieces of information for each individual, based on the arrangement that each individual assigns a rank to each of the pieces of information that constitute the individual information from among a plurality of ranks,

the disclosure procedure storing section is registered with an information disclosure procedure according to each rank within each individual assigned by each individual, and

the disclosure procedure executing section receives a request for disclosing information on a specific individual, and executes an information disclosure procedure stored in the disclosure procedure storing section that matches an information disclosure procedure corresponding to a rank of the information on the specific individual of which disclosure request has been received.

3. (ORIGINAL) An individual information managing device according to claim 1, wherein

the disclosure procedure storing section is registered with an information disclosure procedure at a normal time for each individual assigned by each individual, and an information disclosure procedure at an emergency time for each individual assigned by each individual, and

the disclosure procedure executing section receives a request for disclosing information on a specific individual, with attached information for identifying a normal time and an emergency time, and executes an information disclosure procedure of the specific individual stored in the disclosure procedure storing section that matches the information disclosure procedure at a normal time or the information disclosure procedure at an emergency time, depending on whether the disclosure request belongs to the normal time or the emergency time.

4. (ORIGINAL) An individual information managing device according to claim 1, wherein

the disclosure procedure storing section is registered with a posting procedure assigned by each individual for posting to an individual, as a part of an information disclosure procedure for each individual, and

the disclosure procedure executing section has a disclosure request posting section that receives a request for disclosing information on a specific individual, posts to the specific individual that there has been a request for disclosing the individual information, in a posting procedure that matches the posting procedure to the specific individual stored in the disclosure procedure storing section, and receives an approval for the information disclosure from the individual who has received this posting, and the disclosure procedure executing section receives an approval for the information disclosure from the disclosure request posting section, and further proceeds with the information disclosure procedure.

5. (ORIGINAL) An individual information managing device according to claim 1, wherein

the disclosure procedure storing section is registered with an authentication procedure assigned by each individual for authenticating each individual, as a part of an information disclosure procedure for each individual, and

the disclosure procedure executing section has an authenticating section that receives a request for disclosing information on a specific individual, and authenticates the specific individual in an authentication procedure that matches the authentication procedure of the specific individual stored in the disclosure procedure storing section.

6. (ORIGINAL) An individual information managing device according to claim 1, wherein

the disclosure procedure storing section is registered with an authentication procedure assigned by each individual for authenticating each individual, as a part of an information disclosure procedure for each individual, and

the disclosure procedure executing section has an authenticating section that authenticates the specific individual in an authentication procedure that matches the authentication procedure of the specific individual stored in the disclosure procedure storing section, after the disclosure procedure executing section has received an approval for the information disclosure of the specific individual from the disclosure request posting section.

7. (ORIGINAL) An individual information managing device according to claim 1, wherein

the disclosure procedure storing section can be freely registered with an authorized person to whom the right of proceeding with an information disclosure procedure on behalf of the individual has been transferred for each individual, and

the disclosure procedure executing section receives a request for disclosing information on a specific individual, and executes an information disclosure procedure of the specific individual stored in the disclosure procedure storing section that matches the information disclosure procedure of an authorized person as a procedure for disclosing the information on the specific individual, when the disclosure procedure storing section has been registered with the authorized person to whom the right of proceeding with the information disclosure procedure on behalf of the individual has been transferred.

8. (NEW) A method for managing information of users using an information managing device connected with a network, comprising:

storing information of the users in association with information disclosure items;
allowing each of the users to define an information disclosure procedure necessary to
access respective information of each of the users; and
transmitting information of a specific user responsive to an input of an information
disclosure procedure that matches the defined information disclosure procedure specific to the
user.